

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. A means Means for enabling actuation of a pointing device comprising: (3,4),  
characterised by  
an activity sensor for sensing activation of the pointing device;  
wherein the said activity sensor comprises comprising a threshold comparator; and (10),  
wherein the activity sensor is adapted to enable energization of the pointing device (3,4)  
when the sensed activation of the pointing device exceeds a threshold.
2. The means Means for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to  
claim 1, characterised in that wherein the threshold is adjustable.
3. The means Means for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to  
claim 1, wherein the or 2, characterised in that activity sensor comprises a timer (11) adapted to  
switch off the energization of the pointing device (3,4) after a time has elapsed without any  
sensed activation of the pointing device (3,4).
4. The means Means for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to  
claim 3, characterised in that wherein the time is adjustable.
5. The means Means for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to  
claim 1, wherein the any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that activity sensor further  
comprises a detector device (7,8,9) for sensing a capacitance change at the pointing device (3,  
4).
6. The means Means for enabling actuation of a the pointing device according to  
claim 5, wherein characterised in that the detector device comprises an oscillator (8) with a  
resonant circuit (7).
7. The means Means for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to  
claim 6, wherein characterised in that the capacitance of the pointing device (3,4) forms part of  
the resonant circuit (7).
8. The means Means for enabling actuation of the a pointing device according to  
claim 5, wherein characterised in that the detector device comprises a high impedance amplifier.

9. An input device comprising:  
a pointing device; (3, 4) and  
an activity sensor for sensing activation of the pointing device; ~~characterised in that~~  
wherein the said activity sensor comprises a threshold comparator; ~~and~~ (10),  
wherein the activity sensor is adapted to enable energization of the pointing device (3, 4)  
when the sensed activation of the pointing device exceeds a threshold.

10. ~~The An input device according to claim 9, characterised in that wherein~~ the  
threshold is adjustable.

11. ~~The An input device according to claim 9, wherein the or 10, characterised in that~~  
activity sensor comprises a timer (11) adapted to switch off the energization of the pointing  
device (3, 4) after a time has elapsed without any sensed activation of the pointing device (3, 4).

12. ~~The An input device according to claim 11, characterised in that wherein~~ the time  
is adjustable.

13. ~~The An input device according to claim 9, wherein the any one of claims 9 to 12,~~  
characterised in that activity sensor further comprises a detector device (7, 8, 9) for sensing a  
capacitance change in the pointing device (3, 4).

14. ~~The An input device according to claim 13, characterised in that wherein~~ the  
pointing device comprises a ball (4) capacitively connected to the detector device (7, 8, 9).

15. ~~The An input device according to claim 14, characterised in that wherein~~ the ball  
(4) is a metallized plastic ball with a plastic or rubber coating.

16. ~~The An input device according to claim 14 or 15, characterised in that wherein~~  
the detector device comprises an oscillator (8) with a resonant circuit (7), wherein a the  
capacitance of the ball forms (4) forming a part of the resonant circuit (7).

17. ~~The An input device according to claim 13, wherein any one of claims 13 to 15,~~  
characterised in that the detector device comprises a high impedance amplifier.

18. The A portable device (1) according to claim 9 further comprising including  
a display (2) for showing menus in which navigation may be performed by means of the  
~~an~~ input device (3, 4), characterised in that the input device is according to any one of claims 9  
~~to 17.~~

19. The A portable device according to claim 18, wherein the characterised in that the  
portable device is a mobile telephone (1).